

L.Nelson
#5105
6/28/02
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

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L. Gabele

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Application No.:

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Filed: Herewith

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For: **STERILE CONTAINER**

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10/057736
01/25/02


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail (No. EV 046687149 US) addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 25, 2002.

By: Carol Prentice
Carol Prentice

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U.S. PATENTS:

| <u>Patent No.</u> | <u>Patentee</u> | <u>Date of Issue</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 4,444,310 | Odell | Apr. 24, 1984 |
| 5,324,489 | Nichols et al. | Jun. 28, 1994 |
| 5,732,821 | Stone et al. | Mar. 31, 1998 |

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS:

| <u>Country</u> | <u>No.</u> | <u>Date of Publication</u> |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| International | WO 92/00705 | Jan. 23, 1992 |
| International | WO 95/09579 | Apr. 13, 1995 |
| Germany | 29 52 733 | Jul. 2, 1981 |
| EPO | 0 513 614 | Nov. 19, 1992 |

The first six references listed above are relevant because they were cited by the International Examiner in the Search Report (copy enclosed) of Applicant's counterpart international patent application no. PCT/EP00/06124 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

EP 0 513 614 was subsequently cited by the International Examiner in a written office action (copy enclosed). An English language abstract is attached to EP 0 513 614.

OTHER U.S. PATENTS:

| <u>Patent No.</u> | <u>Patentee</u> | <u>Date of Issue</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 5,509,573 | Campoli | Apr. 23, 1996 |

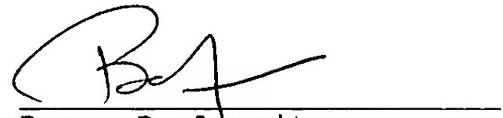
The reference listed above is relevant because it was cited by the German Examiner in Applicant's corresponding German patent application 199 35 986.5 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

Copies of the above-listed references are enclosed, together with a completed form PTO-1449.

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Consideration of these references by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 25, 2002
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HOE-675